

Appl. No. 10/711,916
Amdt. dated April 07, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 09, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugimura (US 6,456,154) in view of the applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA).

5 **Response:**

The applicant would like to point out how claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the combination of Sugimura and the AAPA.

10 The Examiner relies on Sugimura for teaching a pre-charge circuit ND1 and a voltage detector CMP2. The Examiner also says that Sugimura's capacitors C1 and C2 can be replaced with transistors similar to the main transistor 14 shown in Fig. 1 of the AAPA since the main transistor 14 functions as a capacitor.

15 However, there are some structural differences between the claimed boost circuit of claim 1 and what Sugimura teaches. For instance, Sugimura does not teach that the main transistor C1 is electrically connected to the output voltage (represented by Iout). In addition, Sugimura also does not teach that the auxiliary transistor C2 is electrically connected to the output voltage. Instead, there are many intermediate transistors connected between capacitors C1 and C2 and the output, and therefore it cannot be said
20 that the capacitors C1 and C2 are electrically connected to the output voltage, as is claimed. Furthermore, the pre-charge circuit ND1 is not electrically connected to the auxiliary transistor C2, as is claimed.

25 For these reasons, the combination of Sugimura and the AAPA fails to teach all of the limitations contained in claim 1. Claim 6 is dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 6 is respectfully requested.

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2. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugimura (US 6,456,154) in view of the applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) and further in view of Hung et al. (US 6,100,557).

5 **Response:**

Claims 2 and 3 are dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 2 and 3 is respectfully requested.

3. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomishima (US 5,909,141) in view of the applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA).

Response:

The applicant would like to point out how claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the combination of Tomishima and the AAPA.

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The Examiner relies upon circuits shown in Figures 1, 4, and 27 of Tomishima to show the claimed pre-charge circuit 95 and 97 and voltage detector 4. The Examiner also states that the main transistor 14 shown in Fig. 1 of the AAPA can substitute for the capacitors 105 and 109 in Fig. 27 of Tomishima for serving as the main transistor and the auxiliary transistor.

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However, Tomishima does not teach that the main transistor 109 is electrically connected to the output voltage Vpp and that the auxiliary transistor 105 is electrically connected to the output voltage Vpp. Instead, Tomishima teaches that there is an intervening transistor 101 between the output voltage Vpp and the main and auxiliary transistors. Therefore, the combination of Tomishima and the AAPA fails to teach all of the limitations contained in claim 1. Claim 4 is dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 4 is respectfully requested.

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4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ting et al. (US 6,198,340; Ting) in view of the applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA).

5 **Response:**

The applicant would like to point out how claim 8 is patentably distinguished from the combination of Ting and the AAPA.

10 The Examiner states that the Ting teaches a pre-charge circuit 38, a main recharge transistor 37, and a stable recharge transistor 36. The Examiner also states that the main transistor 14 shown in Fig. 1 of the AAPA can substitute for the capacitors C1 and C2 in Fig. 2 of Ting for teaching the main transistor and the stable transistor.

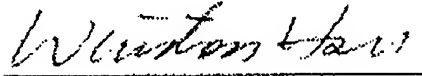
15 However, Ting does not teach that the main transistor C2 is electrically connected to the output voltage Vout since there is an intermediate transistor 44 between the main transistor C2 and the output voltage Vout. Therefore, the combination of Ting and the AAPA fails to teach all of the limitations contained in claim 8. Reconsideration of claim 8 is respectfully requested.

20 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



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- 10 Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)